GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2116
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
PANCHAYAT SANCHAR SEWA KENDRAS SCHEME
KANTI SINGH;PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) in order to improve the postal services in rural areas of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of PSSKs set up in the country at present, State-wise; and

(d) the number of said PSSKs proposed to be set up in the country during 2001-2002, location-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes Sir,

(b) & (c): The Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana (PSSY) was initially launched in 1995 as a pilot project in five statesIn 1996-97, the scheme was extended to five more states. In 1998, the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana (PSSY) scheme was included in the Plan Scheme of `Expansion of Postal Network` of the Ninth Five Year Plan..The number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras sanctioned so far state-wise is given in Annexure-A.

(d) It is proposed to open 2000 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) during the Annual Plan 2001-2002Within their respective targets, the Heads of Circles finalise the locations based on demand as per norm-based justification and co-operation of the Panchayat concerned.

Annexure-A

S.No.	Circles	No. of PSSKs opened from 1995 to January 2001					Total
		95-96	96-97	97-98+	98-99	99-2000	2000-2001++
1	ANDHRA	nil	nil	nil	31	30	32	93
2	ASSAM	nil	nil	nil	nil	5	12	17
3	BIHAR	nil	31	nil	17	40	165	253
4	DELHI	nil						
5	GUJARAT	42	15	nil	20	38	27	142
6	HARYANA	nil	7	nil	nil	10	46	63
7	HIMACHAL	108	nil	nil	nil	10	32	150
8	J & K	nil						
9	KARNATAKA	35	nil	nil	10	14	1	60
10	KERALA	nil						
11	M.P.	nil	15	nil	55	80	90	240
12	MAHRASHTRA	nil	20	nil	10	62	15	107
13	NORTH EAST	nil	nil	nil	nil	5		5
14	ORISSA	20	14	1	29	30	5	99
15	PUNJAB	nil	nil	nil	5	20	28	53
16	RAJASTHAN	nil	15	nil	nil	35	19	69
17	TAMIL NADU	nil	nil	nil	nil	12	30	31	73
18	U.P.	236	91	nil	30	67	152	576
19	W.BENGAL	nil	nil	nil	5	10		15
TOTAL		441	208	1	224	486	655	2015

\+ No targets allotted
++ up to January 2001